United Nations A/61/1041–S/2007/537

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
10 September 2007

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 13 and 32

Security Council
Sixty-second year

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Identical letters dated 9 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter regarding the aggressive Israeli violation of Syrian airspace that took place on 6 September 2007 (see annex).

I would greatly appreciate it if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 13 and 32, and of the Security Council.

07-49987 (E) 100907 100907

Annex to the identical letters dated 9 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

In flagrant defiance of international law, the United Nations Charter and the resolutions of the Security Council, the Israeli air force, after midnight on 6 September 2007, committed a breach of the airspace of the Syrian Arab Republic crossing its northern frontier from the direction of the Mediterranean, flying towards the north-east and breaking the sound barrier. As the Israeli aircraft were departing they dropped some munitions but without managing to cause any human casualties or material damage.

This Israeli violation of Syrian airspace is not the first of its kind; Israel has deliberately committed other similar crimes including the bombing of Syrian civilian facilities in 2003 in flagrant defiance of its obligations under the Disengagement Agreement.

The Israeli Government which has persisted in perpetrating massacres on a daily basis against the Palestinian people and which launched a devastating war against Lebanon last year, has been continuing to further strain the already tense atmosphere in the region and to assert its hostile intentions against the Syrian Arab Republic, which has, time and again, affirmed its desire to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region in implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions, with a view to ensuring the return of the occupied Syrian Golan in its entirety to the motherland.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, in drawing attention to this flagrant violation by Israel of its airspace and to its aggression against the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic in clear and brazen defiance of international law and in a new and dangerous escalation of the situation in the region, emphasizes that the persistence of the Israeli Government in choosing aggression and escalation instead of espousing the option of peace, demonstrates the truth about the Israeli policies which is concealed behind false claims that Israel desires to achieve peace in the region while, at the same time, it commits war crimes, crimes against humanity and violations which are well known and are indicative of its utter contempt for compliance with the United Nations Charter and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. In warning the Israeli Government of the consequences of such blatant aggression, Syria emphasizes that if the international community persists in disregarding these Israeli actions in breach of international law, that is likely to subject the region and international peace and security to serious consequences that may be difficult to control.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative